NEWS

16th International Conference on Informatics, Management and Technology in Health Care, Athens, Greece, 6-8 July, 2018

Izet Masic

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During the period from 6th to 8th July 2018, 16th International Conference on Informatics, Management in Technology and Healthcare (ICIMTH 2018) was held in Athens. The title of the 16th ICIMTH Conference was: “Data Informatics and Technology: an Inspiration for Improved Healthcare”. At the Conference were presented: 6 keynotes, 70 papers, 29 poster presentations, 1 Invited workshop and 1 Special Panel Session by presenters from over 30 countries in the world.

The conference represents one of the largest European gathering in the field of Medical informatics (Biomedical Informatics, Biomedical Engineering, Information Science, Health Informatics, Clinical Informatics, Public Health Informatics, Healthcare IT, Decision Support and Intelligent Systems, Diagnostic Technologies for Medical Decision Support, Formalization of Knowledge, Ontologies, Clinical Guidelines and Standards of Healthcare, Telemed-

icine, Interoperability in Healthcare Systems, Imaging, Health Information Management, Knowledge Management, Health Technology Assessment, E-learning and Education, Robotics and Virtual Reality, Socio-Economic Issues, Standards, Social and Legal Issues).

Over three days were presented 6 invited lectures:

★ Anne Moen (“Technology for THRIVE – Citizens and Health Care”);

★ Theodoros N. Arvanitis (“Clinical Decision Support Systems for Integrated Care”);

★ George Demiris (“Personal Health Informatics – Redefining the Role of Health Care Providers”);

★ Lacramioara Stocu-Tivadar (“Digital Tech Trends in Healthcare”);

★ Rolf Engelbrecht (“Health Information Management: Data and Knowledge in a Fast Changing Health Care World”);

Figure 1. Participants of the ICIMTH 2018, Athens, July 6th, 2018

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A large group of people are seated at round tables in a conference room, attending a presentation. The room has a blue carpet and a patterned ceiling. A screen at the front displays a slide titled "The Future of the Industry". The date "07/07/2018" is visible in the bottom right corner.

ICIMTH 2018

Data, Informatics, and Technology: An Integration for Improved Healthcare

07/07/2018

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Subject "Medical Informatics" at Universities in Bosnia and Herzegovina - What is the Real Status?

15/04/2017

ABSTRACT

In medicine of the 21st century, medicine is essentially a digital medicine. Medical Informatics in theory should be an essential subject while studying medicine. This paper has a descriptive character, and represents an analysis of the existence of the subject "Medical Informatics" at the Medical faculties in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The fact is that Medical Informatics in Bosnia and Herzegovina essentially does not exist, and that the establishment of the subject of Medical Informatics is necessary. How it came to this, the question remains, but the fact is that taking into account the modern clinical medicine, as well as modern scientific research, Medical Informatics still deserves a place in the syllabuses related to the study of clinical medicine.

Keywords: medical informatics, education, medicine.

1. INTRODUCTION

With development of information technologies and medicine of the 21st century, which is essentially a digital medicine, Medical Informatics in theory should be an essential subject while studying medicine. Bosnia and Herzegovina (B&H) joined the Bologna Process in 2003. Bologna Process represents a modern approach, so it should surely set Medical Informatics as a very important tool in creating a new medical worker (1, 2).

2. METHODS

This paper has a descriptive character, and represents an analysis of the existence of the subject "Medical Informatics" at the Medical faculties in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The data were taken from available syllabuses of all six Universities in the country, which include Faculty of Medicine.

3. RESULTS

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faculty of Medicine can be found in five public universities (financed from the state budget) and one private university- University Sarajevo School of Science and Technology. There is no subject of Medical Informatics at the Medical School, Sarajevo School of Science and Technology. At the Faculty of Medicine, University of Sarajevo, subject Medical Informatics is studied at the fourth semester of studies in English language, as an elective subject, with 2 European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) points. In local language this subject is not studied. The situation is similar at the Faculty of Medicine in Foca, University of East Sarajevo, where this subject is studied in the second semester of local language, as an elective one and carries 1 ECTS point. At the Faculty of Medicine in Tuzla and Mostar, the subject does not exist as a separate subject and is studied within the statistical methods and social medicine, both in local language. At the Faculty of Medicine in Zenica, this subject is studied in the first semester as obligatory subject in local language and carries 3.5 ECTS points.

4. DISCUSSION

In Universities in Bosnia and Herzegovina have Faculty of Medicine as part of it, and only one of them, the youngest- Faculty of Medicine in Zenica, has a separate subject of Medical Informatics as an obligatory subject. Considering the health system setting, system electrification through every level of health care organization and health insurance issues, and the neces-

5. CONCLUSION

The fact is that Medical Informatics in Bosnia and Herzegovina essentially does not exist, and that the establishment of the subject of Medical Informatics is necessary. How it came to this, the question remains, but

6. REFERENCES

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Figure 7. Christian Lovis, President of EFMI during opening ceremony of ICIMTH 2018 in Athens

★ Patrick Weber (“Nursing Informatics and Healthcare in the Future”).

Also, Reinhold Haux chaired workshop: “On Writing for Publication and on Good Research in Biomedical and Health Informatics”.

And, Special Panel Session has chaired by George Mihalas with title: “Interdisciplinarity in Medical Informatics” (panelists were: Arie Hasman, Reinhold Haux, John Mantas and Lacramioara Stoicu-Tivadar).

All keynotes and paper and poster presentations were followed by interesting discussions. Participants were able to participate with presentations of full papers and posters and all gathered had the opportunity to learn about the latest developments in the world of biomedicine and to see many presentations about the use of information technology in the world of medicine, especially within the scope of the conference – about data, informatics and technology which are now very important in organizing good or better healthcare systems and subsystems in countries from which presenters came.

How Conference was important talk the fact that at the ICIMTH 2018 Conference, as participants were: 7 academicians of International Academy of Health Sciences Informatics (IAHSI), 6 past Presidents of EFMI, 6 Honorary Fellows of the European Federation for Medical Informatics (EFMI) and 3 former Chairs of MIE Conferences (Rolf Engelbrecht – MIE 2000 in Hanover, Germany, Izet Masic –

Figure 8. Izet Masic at ICIMTH 2018 Conference in Athens

MIE 2009 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Anne Moen – MIE 2017 in Gothenburg, Sweden).

This conference opened by current president of EFMI – Christian Lovis.

Great job of reviewed and selected papers which were presented at ICIMTH 2018 made by Arie Hasman.

The Organizing Committee, chaired by John Mantas and his team, who did a really great job, and we hope that this Conference next year will attract larger number of participants, because event like this certainly deserves it.

All papers are published in the Proceedings published by IOS Press publisher, Amsterdam, and papers are indexed in MEDLINE. Presented papers show that Information technology certainly have growing use in medicine and its use certainly represents the future of clinical medicine.

The field of Medical informatics, after increase in the development in late 90s and stagnation in the beginning of the 21st century, returns its direction to development, and is a field where many new achievements are possible, and as such, requires more events like this.

Author of this report presented very integrative review of Medical informatics subject in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Europe and the world and show how many differences exists with subjects, curricula/silabuses, contents, concepts and methods of education and teaching of Medical informatics, beside existing recommendations by IMIA and its expert bodies and working groups.